

Three months later, LaRouche jailing seen abroad as albatross for Bush

Print media monitored by *EIR*'s correspondents overseas, especially in Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking America, show that concern is growing about the case of Lyndon LaRouche, the American economist and former Democratic presidential candidate who has become a political prisoner in his own country, together with six of his associates. The seven were convicted and imprisoned on "conspiracy" charges after a blatantly unconstitutional trial in Alexandria, Virginia last autumn; the judicial witchhunt against LaRouche's political movement is ongoing with court cases in various states, as seen in the recent clamorous trial of Rochelle Ascher in Virginia.

In Panama, the daily *La Crítica* on April 8 printed a news release on the conviction of Rochelle Ascher for fundraising for political causes associated with LaRouche, under the bold headline, "Fascist Justice in the United States: 87 Years in Prison for Fundraising." On April 10, the paper carried an article titled "LaRouche Denounces: Judicial Corruption in the United States," with "corruption" in capital letters.

In Rio de Janeiro, the Brazilian economic daily *Jornal do Comercio* ran an article by *EIR*'s Rio bureau chief Lorenzo Carrasco on March 29 under the title, "LaRouche Case Can Incriminate Bush," and another one on April 19, "A Nightmare for Bush." Both articles focus on the Iran-Contra scandal connections to the "Get LaRouche" task force that set up LaRouche for prosecution and rigged the jury against him. Another Rio daily, *Ultima Hora*, carried a commentary by Lorenzo Carrasco on April 13, entitled "Bush with Problems," with similar contents.

Of particular interest is a series of articles in the Lima, Peru daily newspaper *El Popular*. In 1987, *El Popular* had serialized the Spanish edition of the popular book written by LaRouche's associates, *Dope, Inc.: Boston Brahmins and Soviet Commissars*.

'Diplo-narco'

What follows is from the article dated April 8, 1989, in *El Popular of Peru*, with the headline: "Man Who Exposed 'Laundering of Narco-dollars' Sentenced to 15 Years."

LONDON (Special to *El Popular*)—The arrest of the Peruvian diplomat José Manuel Pacheco in a downtown London hotel, in possession of 20 kilograms of cocaine, is about to unleash the most massive British judicial operation against the "banking secrecy" which covers up the most fabulous operations of "narco-dollar laundering worldwide"—according to this city's major newspapers.

In truth, this would be the second phase of a large-scale secret war between "narco-bankers" and those who seek to unmask them, as Lyndon LaRouche has done through the book *Narcotráfico, SA*.

LaRouche in jail

It is worth noting that the aforementioned economist and politician who dared to confront world narco-power is now in jail in Virginia, United States, sentenced to 15 years in prison for "conspiracy to commit tax fraud," in what his followers interpret as "a master play by the drug trade to silence him."

Furthermore, Rochelle Ascher, one of his collaborators, has been sentenced in Leesburg, Virginia to nothing less than *87 years in prison*. The charge: "conspiracy to commit fraud."

However, *Executive Intelligence Review*, a publication founded by LaRouche, attributes both convictions to the zeal of powerful interests to cover up the laundering of "narco-dollars."

The investigations of Scotland Yard around the Peruvian "diplo-narco" are currently being conducted in secret, but it is unofficially known that it will lead to an extensive banking network for the laundering of "black money" which could extend to the Grand Caymans, the Bahamas, and other financial paradises.

Narco-power doesn't forgive

A decade before the Ronald Reagan administration began its so-called "War on Drugs," economist and politician Lyndon LaRouche headed up a vast campaign, primarily aimed against the political power engendered by illegal narcotics sales throughout the world.

The book *Dope, Inc.*, translated as *Narcotráfico, SA*, was used, paradoxically, in the charge of "conspiracy to commit

tax fraud,” since—according to the charge—the publishers had failed to declare the exact amount of income from sales of the book, published in 1978 and re-published in four countries—the United States, Argentina, *Peru*, and Colombia. The quantity and quality of its accusations were so great it was banned in Venezuela, and LaRouche’s collaborators there were simultaneously expelled. But, something had happened. “Narco-power” had been exposed on its most vulnerable flank: “the laundering of narco-dollars” through legally established banks.

A secret operation

. . . William Moffitt, one of the defense lawyers in the “LaRouche Case,” asserted: “This book is offensive. It speaks of banks and money laundering. It mentions some of the best known people in this country. And this, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, is why we are in this court.” The prosecutors objected immediately, thereby preventing even a clarification of *Dope, Inc.*’s charges.

But witness Herbert Quinde, a researcher for *Executive Intelligence Review*, came forward to shed light on a secret operation known as “GUATUSA,” run by the government of Guatemala in the jungles of Petén, in collaboration with Lyndon LaRouche and his team of researchers into “narco-finances.”

Another element of the truth came to light in the trial, thanks to vigorous testimony by Gen. Lucio Añez, the Bolivian military officer who took personal charge in 1981 of overthrowing the famous “cocaine colonels” who had seized power in Bolivia and many of whom are still “in hiding” today.

Añez testified that in 1985 he met with Dennis Small and Lyndon LaRouche, to discuss a 15-point program to fight drugs. Similarly, Herbert Quinde testified that LaRouche had been conducting a fierce battle against drugs, specifically against the “laundering of dollars,” at times “with the open opposition of the [U.S.] State Department.”

Throughout his bold investigations, LaRouche and his collaborators “inconvenienced many people.” According to them, Henry Kissinger himself—the former strongman of the Nixon government—had maneuvered to first try and then jail the “bothersome investigator” . . .

What should one believe? Did LaRouche really conspire to commit tax fraud? Or . . . did the “narco-bankers” power simply take him out of the game? . . .

The narcos’ gold

Bylined by Bruno Corsi and published April 11, 1989 in El Popular:

A proven truth is invading the closed world of commonly accepted certainties. The economic power complex created

around the criminal narcotics trade has formed a virtual empire which, in the United States alone, moves 500 *billion*—a tremendously shocking figure, when one considers that the total foreign debt of Latin America “barely” reaches \$450 billion.

And how do they do it?

But, how could they move so much illegal money without anybody doing anything to stop it? The answer was obtained more than 15 years ago by economist and politician Lyndon LaRouche, who, at the head of a well-researched team, managed to decipher “the mystery” of dollar laundering practiced by numerous banks “domiciled” in the “financial paradises” under Great Britain’s protection.

Naturally, such a volume of economic power necessarily generates an awesome political power, and—according to the charges vigorously presented by *Executive Intelligence Review*—have ended up putting Lyndon LaRouche, who was 66 today, behind bars. He faces a 15-year sentence on charges of “conspiracy to commit fraud.” . . .

Thus narco-dollars are laundered

According to Lyndon LaRouche’s research, presented in the book *Dope, Inc.*, the cycle of dollar laundering could be summed up thus: “The billions of dollars from the retail sale of drugs in the United States, return in part to the same drug-trafficking machinery inside the country, where every criminal stratum takes its fair share. The net profits, in cash, are laundered through hotels, restaurants, gambling houses, and sports stadiums.

“After the cash is laundered by these so-called legitimate means, it is transferred to some offshore banks or the equivalent. Then, according to officials of the DEA, the money goes around the world several times by telexes from the offshore banks. It passes, generally, through at least a half-dozen bank accounts and paper companies, from the Cayman Islands to Liechtenstein, from Liechtenstein to the Bahamas, from the Bahamas to some ‘company without residence’ in Canada, from Canada to Panama, etc.” . . .

The LaRouche defense

Naturally, revelations such as those reproduced above, backed by documents, specifics, and more than 10 years of secret investigations, have to have “inconvenienced” many individuals, entities and “citizens above suspicion.” Finally, last year, Lyndon LaRouche and some of his closest collaborators were accused of “conspiracy to commit fraud” and jailed in Virginia, United States.

Warren J. Hamerman, chairman of the U.S. National Democratic Policy Committee, defended the economist and politician, stating before the Martin Luther King International Tribunal on Feb. 25: “At 66 years of age, he is in prison with a 15-year sentence, that is, sentenced to life imprisonment or to death . . . not for crimes that have been concretely committed, but for ‘conspiracies’ to commit crimes which in

the majority of nations in the civilized world would be considered minor civil infractions.”

The speaker went on to detail the series of legal operations and persecutions that LaRouche and his collaborators had suffered . . . before ending up in prison. Finally, he made it clear that from 1984 onward, the illegal and quasi-legal government operations against Lyndon LaRouche were “the size of the Normandy Invasion.”

The secret war continues

Only a few days ago, at the Macon, Georgia airport, boxer Roberto “Hand of Stone” Durán’s former manager was arrested. He is Panamanian businessman Carlos Eleta Almarán, owner of a television station in Panama. He and his partner, former ambassador Manuel Castillo Bourcy, were accused of “intent to sell cocaine,” although it is said that the arrest was really due to an informer from competing mafias in this gigantic trade, which simply could not exist if its promoters couldn’t rely on “banking secrecy” and the “tax paradises” protected by British laws.

And while *Executive Intelligence Review* continues fighting all over the world to free Lyndon LaRouche, millions of dollars from the drug trade continue to flow daily, via bank telexes, for the glory of incredible empires built on the death, degradation and absolute privation of hope of millions of people in 43 countries, united by this sordid, and seemingly unstoppable, tragedy.

Sensational revelations from jail

El Popular of April 15, 1989: Headline: “Secret government jails denouncer of Dope, Inc.”

WASHINGTON, April 12 (Special to *El Popular*)—Numerous publications today began what seems to be an all-out campaign to unmask the “secret government” which, through illegal machinations, managed to try and then jail U.S. politician and economist Lyndon LaRouche, the man responsible for the exposure of “Dope, Inc.” and the standardbearers of “narco-gold.” One of the most spectacular revelations in this regard shows Buster E. Horton, foreman of the jury that found LaRouche and his collaborators guilty in an Alexandria, Virginia court, to be a “member of an exclusive U.S. government national security unit, which also included Oliver North until he was fired as a result of the Iran-Contra scandal.”

Clamor from prison

During an interview granted by LaRouche to Washington radio station WRC, the prisoner himself made sensational revelations that present Oliver “Buck” Revell, deputy director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), as the person who ran a team set up exclusively to persecute the

man who dared to confront the great multinational of vice and its known influence on policies strangling Third World economies.

Revell—according to LaRouche—directed the national security unit of which Oliver North (of the Iran-Contra scandal) was part. It is strange that Buster E. Horton himself then went on to become foreman of the jury which condemned the economist and politician, along with six of his collaborators, on charges of “conspiracy to commit fraud.” . . .

‘A well-sharpened accusation’

The unsigned article excerpted below appeared under the above headline, in Tribuna da Imprensa, a Rio de Janeiro, Brazil daily, on April 13. A small photograph of Rochelle Ascher accompanies the article, which is under an Iran-Contra wire story on page 10.

A group of U.S. lobbyists of Latin origin has been releasing since April 1987 interesting revelations on the Oliver North case and the White House involvement in the sale of arms to Iran to finance—against the decision of Congress—the sale of arms to the Nicaraguan rebels.

According to the “widely” distributed reports by the lobbyists and based on material produced by the members of the “organization,” an obscure economist and politician with U.S. citizenship, Lyndon H. LaRouche, was allegedly unjustly sentenced to a variable term of 2-15 years [sic] in prison—for knowing “revealing” data which proved the involvement of then-presidential candidate George Bush in the “Iran-Contra affair.”

The official version—according to what co-religionists of the jailed politician divulge—is that LaRouche was condemned after trial, on conspiracy against the tax collector and economic crimes. At the same there are accusations against another of his allies, Rochelle Ascher . . . who, according to the lobbyists, received an 86-year prison sentence!

The group protests the rapidity with which both trials were conducted and the unusual length of sentences imposed, and also alleges the jury was involved in the Iran-Contra case.

For many, the publications produced by LaRouche’s defenders are unknown, but they stand out for their wealth of accusations against various international agencies, right-wing and left-wing governments in several countries. The Oliver North case, by its very nature, involves members of the Pentagon and the White House. . . . That is well used by the group, which alleges having had access to strictly confidential information proving the involvement of the Reagan administration and of then Vice President George Bush.

Bush, now President, refuses comment on the case, but as an ex-director of the CIA and former vice president of the powerful Reagan, it would be hard to believe he is poorly informed. . . .